



## South African Reserve Bank

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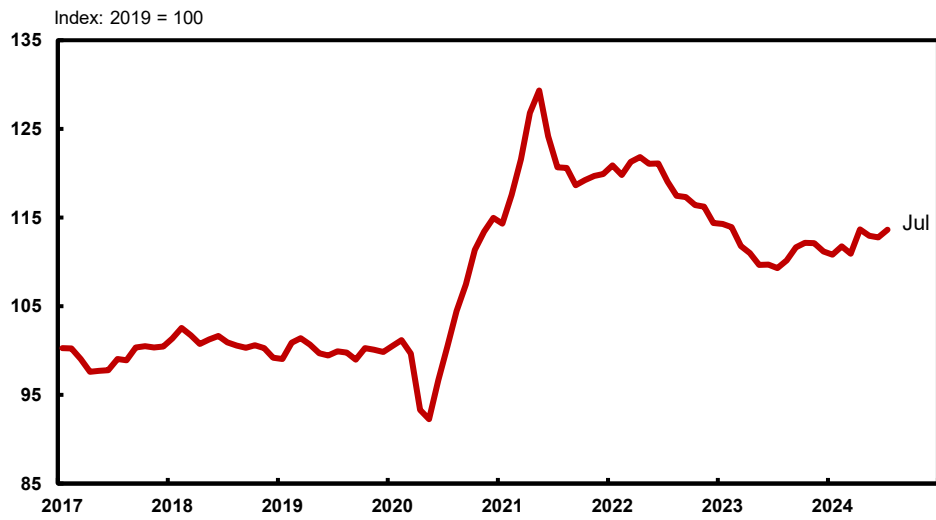
***FOR RELEASE: 09:00 A.M., Wednesday, 25 September 2024***

### **Composite business cycle indicators for South Africa**

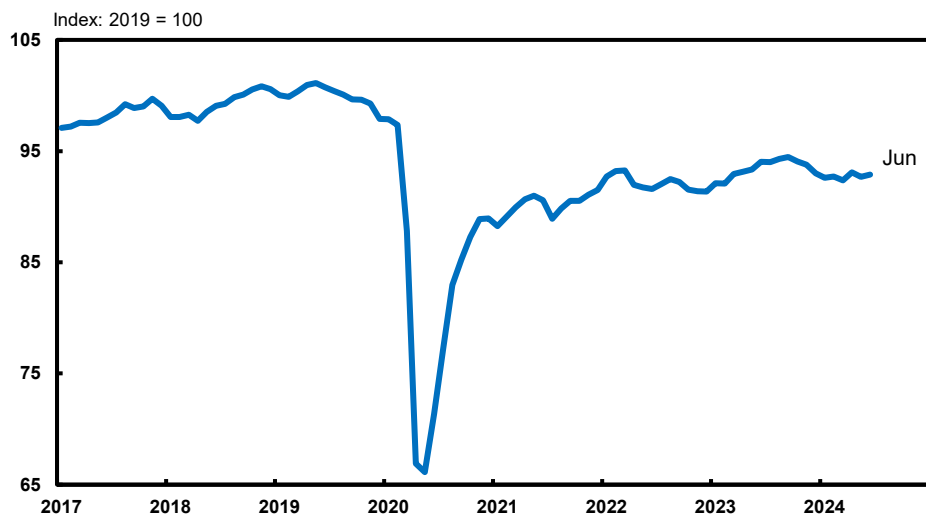
- The composite **leading** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0.7% in July 2024 as increases in six of the ten available component time series outweighed decreases in the remaining four. The largest positive contributors were accelerations in the six-month smoothed growth rates in job advertisement space and the number of new passenger vehicles sold. The largest negative contributors were a narrowing of the interest rate spread and a decrease in South Africa's US-dollar denominated export commodity price index.
- The composite **coincident** business cycle indicator *increased* by 0.2% in June 2024 due to an increase in the real value of retail and new vehicle sales.
- The composite **lagging** business cycle indicator *decreased* by 0.8% in June 2024.

**The next release is scheduled for 22 October 2024, at 09:00 A.M.**

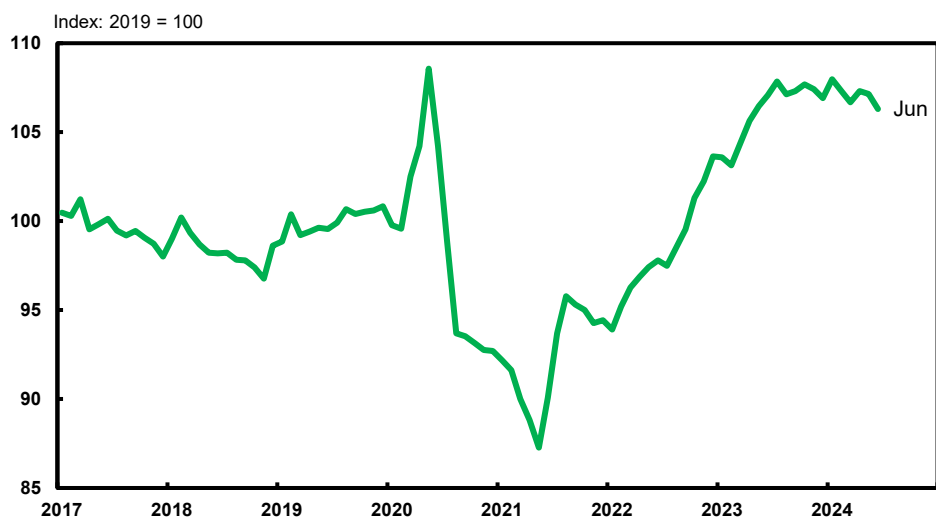
### Composite leading business cycle indicator



### Composite coincident business cycle indicator



### Composite lagging business cycle indicator



**Table 1 Summary of the composite business cycle indicators\***

Indices: 2019 = 100	2023		2024						
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Leading indicator	112.1	111.2	110.8	111.8	110.9	113.7	112.9	112.8	113.6
Monthly percentage change	0.0	-0.8	-0.3	0.8	-0.8	2.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.7
12-month percentage change	-3.5	-2.8	-3.0	-1.9	-0.8	2.4	3.0	2.8	4.0
Coincident indicator	93.8	93.0	92.6	92.7	92.4	93.1	92.7	92.9	-
Monthly percentage change	-0.3	-0.8	-0.4	0.1	-0.4	0.8	-0.4	0.2	-
12-month percentage change	2.6	1.8	0.5	0.7	-0.6	-0.1	-0.7	-1.2	-
Lagging indicator	107.4	106.9	108.0	107.3	106.7	107.3	107.2	106.3	-
Monthly percentage change	-0.3	-0.5	1.0	-0.6	-0.6	0.6	-0.1	-0.8	-
12-month percentage change	5.1	3.2	4.2	4.1	2.2	1.6	0.6	-0.7	-

\* The composite business cycle indicators are revised continuously following revisions to underlying component time series data.

**Table 2 Component time series of the composite leading business cycle indicator and their contribution to the July 2024 data point:**

<b>Positive contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Job advertisements: The Sunday Times (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Number of new passenger vehicles sold (six-month smoothed growth rate)
Number of building plans approved: Flats, townhouses & houses larger than 80m <sup>2</sup>
RMB/BER* Business Confidence Index
BER*: Average hours worked per factory worker in manufacturing (half weight)
Composite leading business cycle indicator for South Africa's major trading-partner countries (percentage change over 12 months)
<b>Negative contributors (ranked from largest to smallest)</b>
Interest rate spread: 10-year government bonds minus 91-day Treasury bills
Commodity price index for South Africa's main export commodities (US dollar based)
BER*: Volume of orders in manufacturing (half weight)
Real M1 (six-month smoothed growth rate)
<b>Unavailable component series</b>
Gross operating surplus as a percentage of gross domestic product

\* Bureau for Economic Research, Stellenbosch University